(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "37 PC rural Indians landless" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated December 5, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) which claims to have conducted studies in 33,000 rural households in 16 States and released its report on 30th November 1996 in Bhopal at the UNDP Workshop, got wide coverage by media including the Hindustan Times. The said NCAER report-1994 is yet to be published and hence the Government did not have any access to that report. It is not clear how the aforesaid studies reported that 37% of the rural population to be landless. According to census report of 1991, the total rural population was 62,28,12,376 out of which landless agricultural labour was 7,47,97,744 which constitute only 11.98%. As per the 48th Round of All India Survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation and the data compiled in the beginning of 1996 shows the estimated number of rural households in India is 116,405,800 of which number of landless households is only 13,088,900 which is 11.3% of the rural households. In the aforesaid report the landless households means and includes "households owning no land or landless than 0.002 Hectares".

(c) The Government is however fully aware and deeply concerned about the growing landlessness in the country and hence the Union Government has been emphsising for taking up and implementing time bound programmes for distribution of ceiling land, Bhoodan land, Govt. Wasteland in the last Conference of the Revenue Secretaries held on 26th November, 1996 and Revenue Minister's Conference on 27th December , 1996. In addition the performance of the States/UTs in the aforesaid matters are being regularly monitored.

[Translation]

Agreement between Government and Fishermen

1791. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the fishermen along the sea-coast had signed any agreement with the Government during the last years;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether the Government are unable to implement the said agreement;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government so far and proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) and (b) The Minister of state for Food Processing Industries had only reassured the group of fishermen on 13.8.96 for speedy decision on and implementation of the recommendations of the Review Committee on deep sea fishing policy.

(c) to (e) The Government has since taken a decision to accept all the recommendations of the Review Committee in principle. However, in respect of recommendation regarding cancellation of all permits issued for fishing by joint venture, charter, lease and test fishing vessesls, subject to legal processes as may be required, it has been decided that these permits can be cancelled only for violation of the provisions of the MZI Act 1981 or any rule or order made thereunder and/or the conditions stipulated in the approvals granted. Such action for cancellation or otherwise of approvals has to be decided in individual cases in consultation with the Ministry of Law. As per the recommendations, the New Deep Sea Fishing Policy of 1991 has been rescinded. Action has also been initiated to implement other recommendations of the Review Committee.

[English]

Allotments of Flats

1792. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of flats allotted under various categories by Delhi Development Authority upto 31st December, 1996;

(b) whether any time bound programme has been chalked out to allot flats to all the remaining applicants; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER

OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) 2,44,392 flats.

(b) and (c) The DDA has reported that keeping in view the constraints of availability of land and infrastructural facilities from the concerned agencies, no time schedule can be indicated at this Stage.

Employment

1793. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the extent to which the urban employment schemes have been implemented and the number of people employed, state-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : Two Centrally sponsored urban employment schemes, namely, Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP) are being implemented in the country. Under NRY, the objective is to provide employment, opportunities to the unemployed and underemployed urban poor living below the poverty line. The employment contemplated is of two types: self-employment through setting up of micro-enterprises and wage-employment through creation of useful public assets in the low income neighbourhoods. The State-wise details of number of persons assisted to set up micro-enterprises as on 31.1.97 is given in the enclosed statement.

As far as PMIUPEP is concerned, one of the several components of the programme is self-employment, under which unemployed and under-employed urban poor are encouraged to set up small enterprises/ventures relating to servicing, petty business and manufacturing, to enhance their economic position. Most of the States are still largely in the preparatory and primary stages of the implementation of the prgramme, such as house to house survey, spatial mapping, preparation of project, report, building of community structures etc. Five million urban poor are targetted to be benefitted under this scheme during the five year programme period ending 1999-2000.

Statement

Nehru Rozgar Yojana

Number of persons assisted to set up Micro Enterprises as on 31.1.1997

S.No.	Name of State/UT	No. of persons
1.	Andhra Pradesh	97715
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	853
3.	Assam	17568
4.	Bihar	22192
5.	Goa	450
6.	Gujarat	15583
7.	Haryana	16943
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2718
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	5661
10.	Karnataka	48588
11.	Kerala	22727
12.	Madhya Pradesh	114189
13.	Maharashtra	68467
14.	Manipur	5186
15.	Meghalaya	1961
16.	Mizoram	650
17.	Nagaland	-
18.	Orissa	21796
19.	Punjab	22357
20.	Rajasthan	49051
21.	Sikkim	842
22.	Tamil Nadu	109500
23.	Tripura	575
24.	Uttar Pradesh	185846
25.	West Bengal	38934
26.	A & N Island	608
27.	Chandigarh	398
28.	D & N Haveli	376
29.	Daman & Diu	174
30.	Delhi	1930
30.	Pondicherry	2323
	Total	876161